

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR A PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No. V-3280-010

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled APPARATUS FOR LOADING CARGO INTO VEHICLES, the specification of which

(check one) is attached hereto

was filed on _____ as Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status--patented, pending, abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status--patented, pending, abandoned)
_____	_____	_____

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: William S. Van Royen (Reg. #32,446), and David W. Pettis, Jr. (Reg. #26,787).

Address all telephone calls to WILLIAM S. VAN ROYEN at telephone No. (813) 226-0440.

Address all correspondence to WILLIAM S. VAN ROYEN at the firm of PETTIS & VAN ROYEN, P.A., 501 E. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 700, Tampa, FL 33602.

Full name of sole or first inventor: ROBERT L. SMITH

Inventor's signature Robert L. Smith Date 11-4-01

Residence PLANT CITY, FLORIDA Citizenship US

Post Office Address 1501 WEST BUELL COURT, PLANT CITY, FLORIDA 33567-9341, U.S.A.

Full name of second joint inventor, if any: NONE

Second Inventor's signature _____ Date _____

Residence _____ Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

Applicant or Patentee: ROBERT L. SMITH

Serial or Patent N°: _____ Atty. Docket N°: V-3280-010

Filed or Issued: _____ For: APPARATUS FOR LOADING CARGO INTO VEHICLES

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION)
CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b))-INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9 (c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41 (a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled APPARATUS FOR LOADING CARGO INTO VEHICLES described in

the specification filed herewith
 application serial N° _____, Filed: _____
 patent N° _____, Issued: _____

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

No such person, concern or organization
 persons, concerns or organizations listed below*

***NOTE:** Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 2.17)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Individual Small Business Concern Nonprofit Organization

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Individual Small Business Concern Nonprofit Organization

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Individual Small Business Concern Nonprofit Organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying or at the time of paying the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate.

(37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

<u>ROBERT L. SMITH</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
NAME OF INVENTOR	NAME OF INVENTOR	NAME OF INVENTOR
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Signature/Inventor	Signature/Inventor	Signature/Inventor
<u>Nov. 04, 2001</u>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Date	Date	Date